

24 Locations in Delaware to Participate in Drug Take-Back Day, April 27, 2019



DOVER – Delaware will hold its 18th Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Delawareans can discard their expired or unused medications at 24 locations statewide between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Organized nationally by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Drug Take-Back Day is operated locally by the Division of Public Health (DPH). The twice-a-year event is aimed at reducing the risk of prescription medications being diverted for misuse, and has resulted in nearly 11,000 pounds of medication being collected since 2010. Properly discarding unused medications is an important ongoing event in the effort to address the nationwide opioid epidemic. Doing so reduces the risk of addiction by keeping prescription medications out of the hands of people who may misuse, abuse, or sell them, and helps reduce the risk of drug overdoses.

“Both the direct prescribing of opioids for pain as well as the abundance of these dangerous drugs in our medicine cabinets and communities, have been a significant driver of the opioid epidemic,” said DPH Medical Director Dr. Rick Hong. “By safely turning in your prescription medications during Drug Take-Back Day, you can help fight the opioid epidemic in our state and make your home safe from potential prescription

drug abuse or theft.”

According to the 2017 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 6 million Americans abused controlled prescription drugs. The study shows that a majority of abused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet. Since January 1, 2019, there have been 70 suspected overdose deaths in the state. Preliminary estimates for 2018 indicate 419 overdose deaths across Delaware, an increase of 21 percent from the 2017 total of 345 deaths, according to the Division of Forensic Science.

In addition to the 24 sites participating in April’s Drug Take-Back Day activities, there are 21 permanent medicine drop-off locations across the state available year-round. Six of Delaware’s permanent drop-off sites are in Walgreens pharmacies and the other 15 are located in local law enforcement agencies. For a list of permanent collection sites, visit <https://www.helpisherede.com/Get-Help/Prescription-Drug-Drop-Box>.

On Drug Take-Back Day, medications for disposal must be in a container such as a pill bottle, box, blister pack, or zipped plastic bag, with personal information removed. Liquid medications must be in their original containers. Needles, aerosols, biohazard materials, medical equipment and batteries will not be accepted.

Delaware’s Drug Take-Back Day sites for April 27, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. are:

New Castle County

- Christiana Care Surgical Center, 4755 Ogletown Stanton Road, Newark
- Delaware City Police Department, 407 Clinton St., Delaware City
- Delaware State Police Troop 2, 100 La Grange Ave., Newark

- Newark Police Department, 220 S. Main. St., Newark (permanent collection site)
- Middletown Police Department, 130 Hampden Road, Middletown
- New Castle County Airport, 151 N. DuPont Highway, New Castle
- New Castle County Police Department, 3601 N. DuPont Highway (permanent collection site)
- Shipley Manor Nursing Home, 2723 Shipley Road, Wilmington
- Wilmington VA Medical Center, 1601 Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington

Kent County

- Atlantic Apothecary, 103. S. Dupont Blvd., Suite 2, Smyrna
- Cheswold Police Department, 691 Main St., Cheswold
- Delaware State Police Troop 3, 3759 S. State St., Camden-Wyoming
- Felton Police Department, 24 E. Sewell St., Felton (permanent collection site)
- Dover Police Department, 300 S. Queen St., Dover (permanent collection site)

Sussex County

- City of Lewes Board of Public Works, 129 Schley Ave., Lewes
- Dagsboro Police Department, 33134 Main St., Dagsboro
- Delaware State Police Troop 7, 18006 Coastal Highway, Lewes
- Laurel Police Department, 205 Mechanic St., Laurel (permanent collection site)
- Milton Police Department, 101 Federal St., Milton
- Milford Police Department, 400 NE Front St., Milford (permanent collection site)
- Atlantic Shores Rehabilitation and Health Center, 231 S. Washington St., Millsboro
- Ocean View Police Department, 201 Central Ave., Ocean View, (permanent collection site)
- Lewes Ferry Terminal, 43 Cape Henlopen Dr., Lewes
- Rehoboth Police Department, 229 Rehoboth Ave., Rehoboth Beach

For more details about Drug Take-Back Day, visit

<http://dhss.delaware.gov/dph/hsp/hhdrugtakeback.html> or call 302-744-4546, ext. 4.

If you or a loved one is struggling with addiction in Delaware, call DHSS' 24/7 Crisis Hotline to be connected to treatment and recovery options. In New Castle County, call 1-800-652-2929. Or in Kent and Sussex counties, call 1-800-345-6785. To search online for treatment and recovery services in Delaware or nearby states, visit HelpIsHereDE.com.

A person who is deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind or speech-disabled can call the DPH phone number above by using TTY services. Dial 7-1-1 or 800-232-5460 to type your conversation to a relay operator, who reads your conversation to a hearing person at DPH. The relay operator types the hearing person's spoken words back to the TTY user. To learn more about TTY availability in Delaware, visit <http://delawarerelay.com>.

The Delaware Department of Health and Social Services is committed to improving the quality of the lives of Delaware's citizens by promoting health and well-being, fostering self-sufficiency, and protecting vulnerable populations. DPH, a division of DHSS, urges Delawareans to make healthier choices with the 5-2-1 Almost None campaign: eat 5 or more fruits and vegetables each day, have no more than 2 hours of recreational screen time each day (includes TV, computer, gaming), get 1 or more hours of physical activity each day, and drink almost no sugary beverages.